Gunston & The Book Bunnies

The Gunston Trust

Cad McGhee & The Nasty Three

The Christmas Caper

By Robin Gilmor

Matthew O'keefe - Illustrator

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&
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LYONS HEAD
PO BOX 5905
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The Christmas Caper

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&
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The Christmas Caper

It was early in December
An icy chill was in the air,
Christmas trees and decorations
Could be found most everywhere.

There were Santa's at the downtown stores
And Santa's at the mall.
So many Santa's everywhere
You couldn't count them all.

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But one Santa looked familiar
When a ringed tail swept his toes.
And his black mask covered both his eyes
Worn just above his nose.

Just a slippery sort of critter,
You know the crooked kind,
With bundles carried by three elves
Brought a bandit gang to mind

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With flakes of snow and Christmas trees
And Santa's with their beards
Across the morning headlines
Sudden words of crime appeared.

The paper had reported,
Presents underneath the trees
Were missing in the morning
Could it be that Cad McGhee?

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Meanwhile, out in the county
Sergeant Barge read of the crimes.
Mike knew this gang completely
For he netted them one time.

Sarge had given up his doughnuts
And worked out at the gym,
At six foot five his muscles looked
Extremely fit and trim.

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Oh he wore so many medals
In rows upon his chest,
For he was the best detective
Counting all of his arrests.

The Police Chief in the city,
Placed a call to Sergeant Barge,
"You must arrest this crafty crew
Somehow they're still at large!"

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"Taking presents from the children
Is such a nasty game,
You must round up this slippery gang,
For sure, they are to blame!"

Barge said, "I know this rascal crook,
The sticky finger type.
I caught him once, I will again
For stealing isn't nice."

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"He is a hardened criminal
That's known as Cad McGhee.
His elves that carry each a sack,
They're called the Nasty Three."

"They rob at night when it is dark,
Escaping just in time,
They never use a bike or car
They ride the Light Rail Line."

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McGhee was dressed as Santa Claus
And through the icy snow
The Nasty Three and Cad McGhee
Hit each house in a row.

From the City to the County
Up and down the tracks you'll find,
This conniving bunch of bandits
Committing all the crimes.

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Neighbors paid him no attention
When he went out late at night,
Dressed up as dear old Santa Claus,
Which was a common sight.

They carried all the gifts away
In great big gunny sacks,
Just like Santa's helping elves
With sacks upon their backs.

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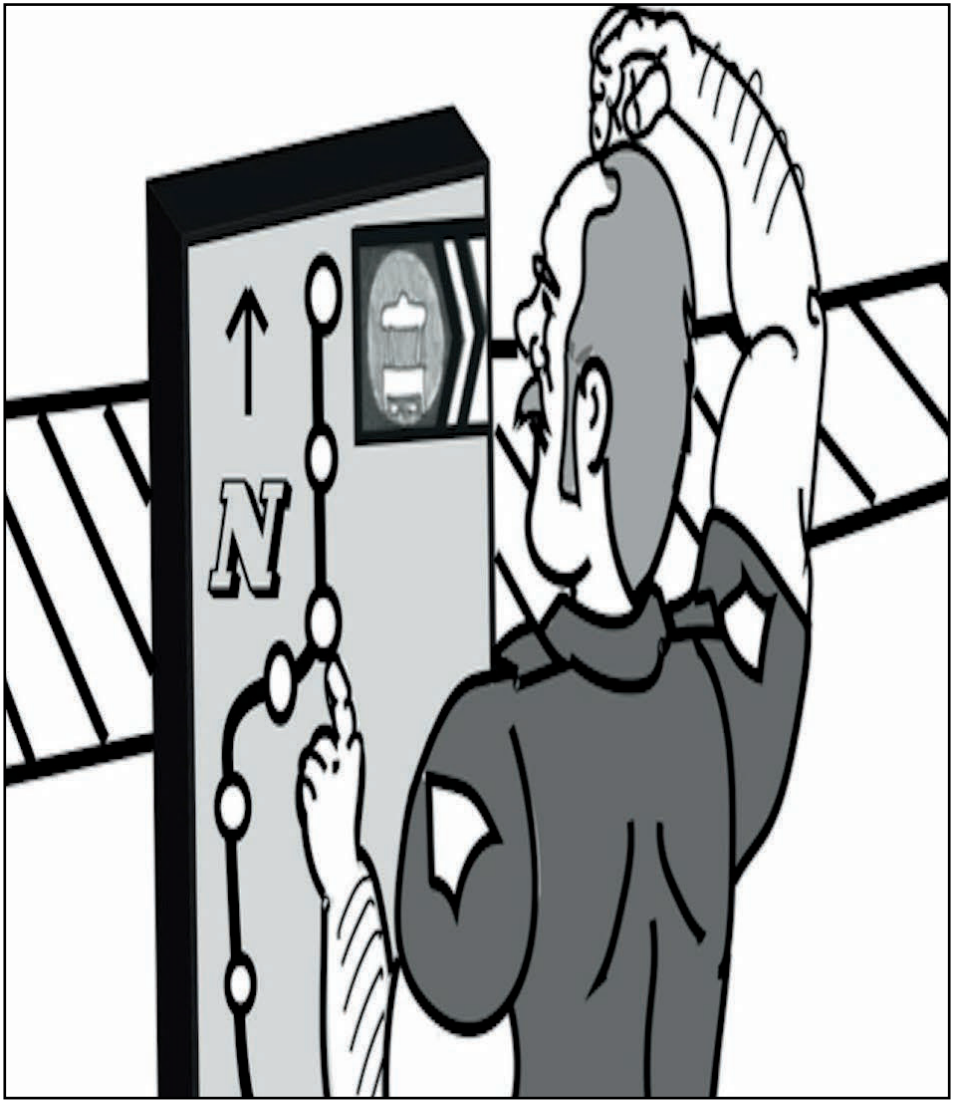

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But Sergeant Barge just scratched his head,
"What I need is a clue,"
Then he took a Light Rail schedule,
He picked up one or two.

This wily gang hits city homes
As they keep moving north.
Tomorrow will be Christmas day,
Today's the twenty forth!

The Christmas Caper

But what about the children,
When they all awake to see,
That stinking, rotten gang of thieves
Stole the presents from their tree!

So Sergeant Barge cooked up a plan,
"I'll beat them at their game,
And when I catch that scoundrel Cad,
He'll never be the same!"

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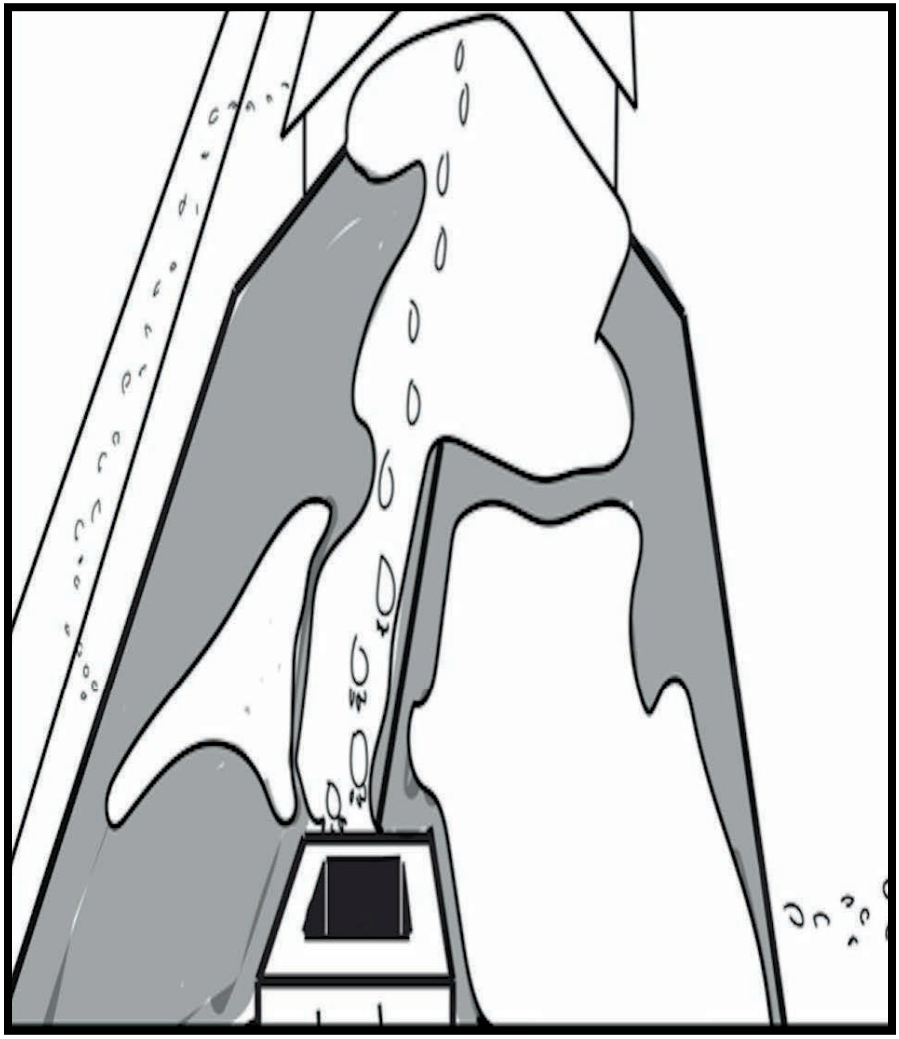

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So in the darkest, coldest nights,
When down the streets they'd stroll,
McGhee was watching for a cop
Who might be on patrol.

To the roof without a clamor,
Down the chimney they would drop.
After stealing all the presents
Out the back without a stop!

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But this time the Sarge was ready
And waiting at the rail.
All dressed up as Santa Claus
He'd take them all to jail.

The Sergeant had made arrangements
And called for backup men,
He needed help to hold McGhee
And take him to the pen.

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Oh, you'll know him when you see him,
He's the sleazy, slimy kind."
"He's dressed like dear old Santa Claus
He won't be hard to find."

Sarge finally reached the station,
His net down by his side
But Cad McGhee and the Nasty Three
Were ready for their ride.

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The train pulled out, the gang jumped on,
It was so sad to see,

As the Police all jumped on Santa Sarge. . .
And off rode Cad McGhee!

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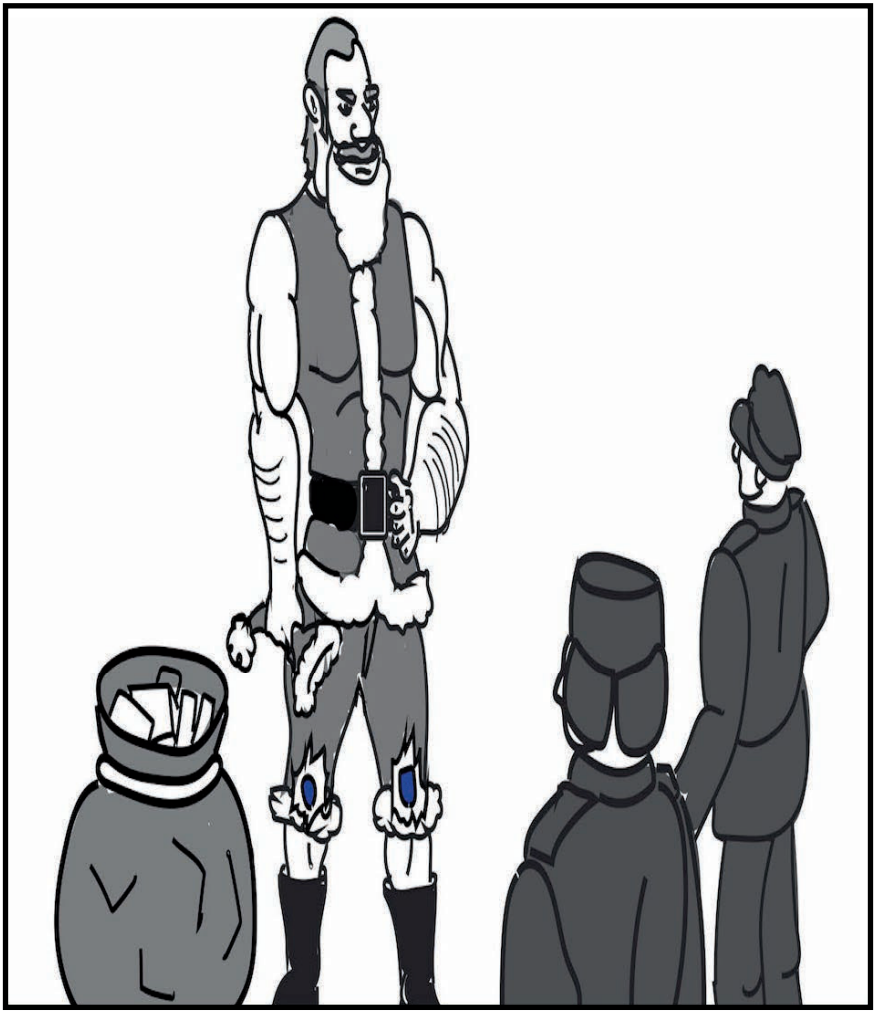

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Somehow the bags had all been dropped,
The gifts were tagged and wrapped.
The presents were returned at once,
The neighbors cheered and clapped.

They called Sarge Mike a hero,
With big scrapes upon his knees,
Still he walks around and mumbles,
"I'll get you Cad McGhee!"

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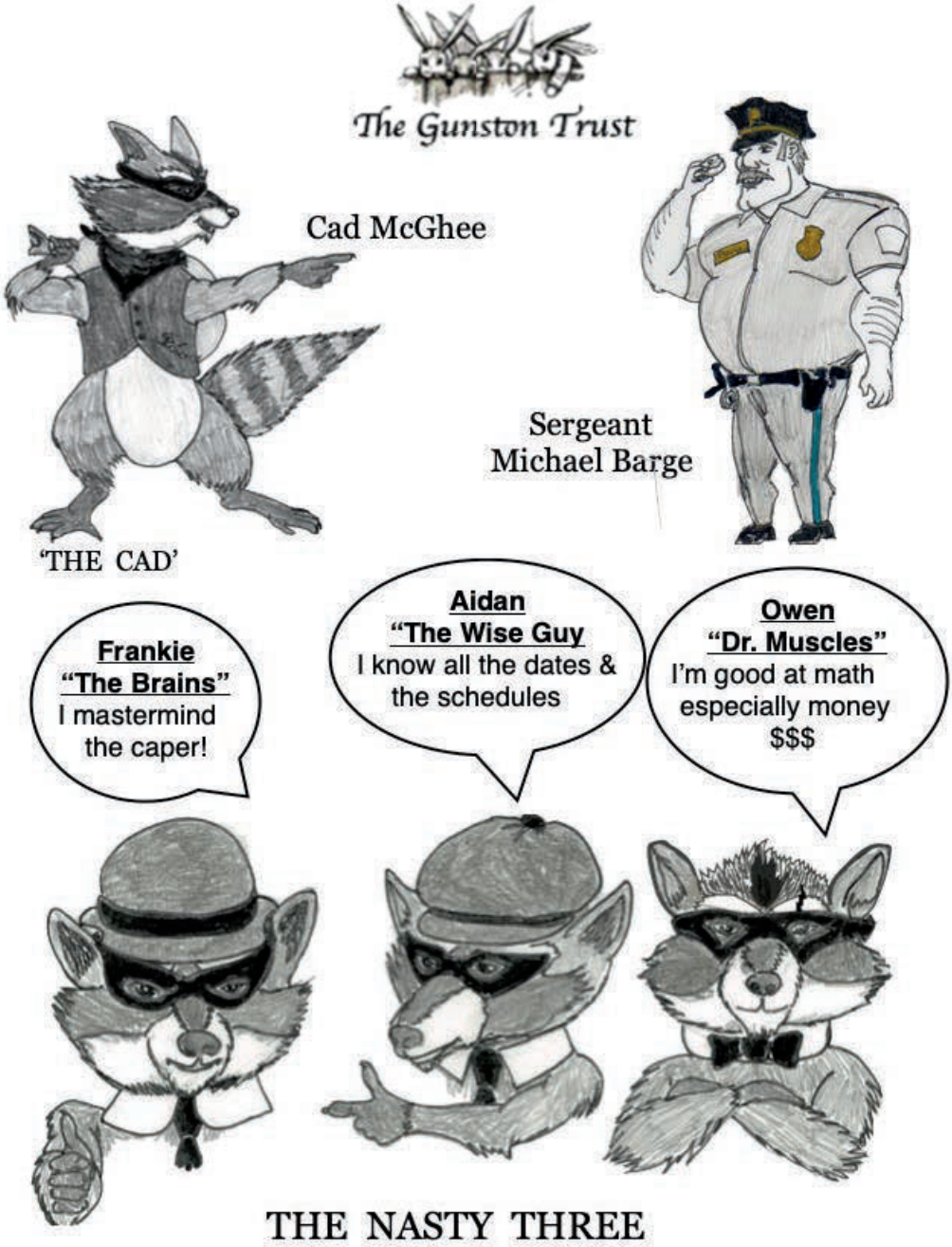
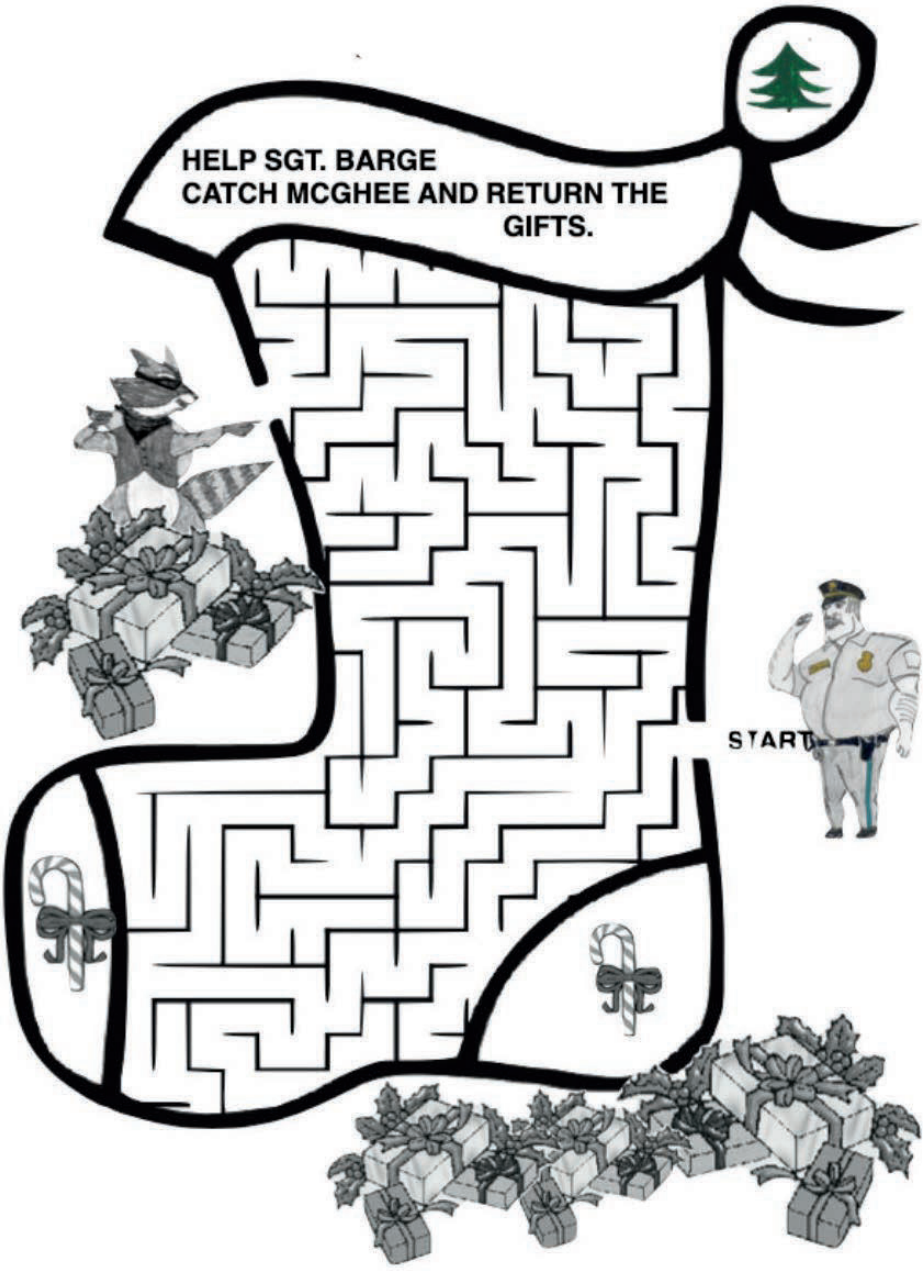


CAST OF CHARACTERS

The Christmas Caper



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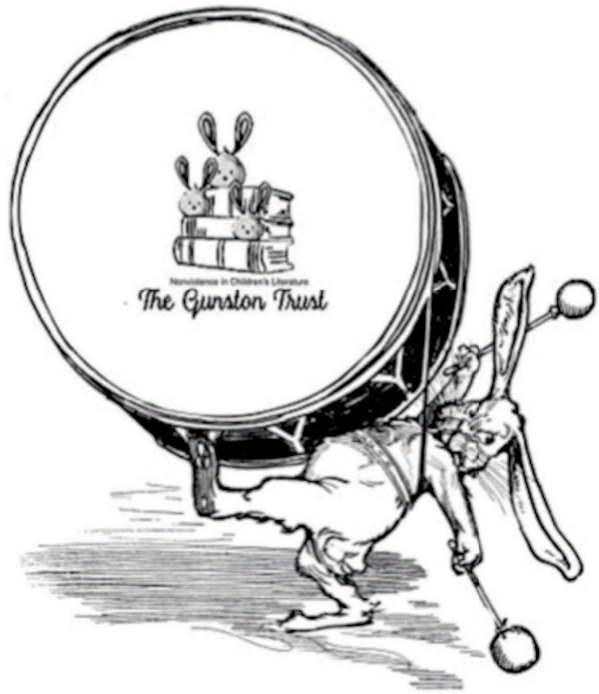

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